



Department of Aging and Adult Services

DAAS Shows Appreciation for Volunteer Ombudsman

HS Connection Staff

Ombudsman Program Manager Vince Wrzalinski held a recognition luncheon June 18 at the Upland Hills Country Club. The annual event honors the 27 state-certified Ombudsman volunteers who have given their precious time and energy advocating, investigating, and resolving complaints from seniors in residential care and/or skilled nursing facilities across the county.

This diverse group of volunteers ranging in age from 23 to 86 have spent 36 hours in classroom training, a minimum of 12 hours of field mentoring, and have volunteered 20 hours or more per month to become state-certified Ombudsman. Many of the Ombudsman have committed over 30 volunteer hours per month because they enjoy playing such a vital role in helping seniors.

Following a buffet-style lunch with live music by guitarist Darryl Reed, the certificates of appreciation were handed out by each Area Coordinator. An overwhelming happiness filled the room as each volunteer was presented with the certificate and a gift for doing something they love to do.

The fun continued with a friendly team-driven game of Jeopardy. Game show host Vince Wrzalinski quizzed the creatively named groups with trivia questions related to the County of San Bernardino and the Ombudsman Program. Each group displayed team spirit as they worked together to quickly answer the questions. Team "Blue Jays" flapped their wings with every correct answer, while others cheered with an abundance of laughter.

After the good times ended the volunteer Ombudsman posed for a group photo and hugged one another as they said their goodbyes, until next year...

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming a volunteer Ombudsman, please call Ombudsman Program Manager Vince Wrzalinski at (909) 891-3928 or via email at vwrzalinski@hss.sbcounty.gov.



Program Mgr. Vince Wrzalinski
with Ombudsman Janet Ward



A good time playing Jeopardy.



Team "Blue Jays" flaps their wings as they
answer the Jeopardy question correctly.

